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## PRESS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## City of Bremen Participating in Mayors' Christmas Motorcade

The City of <u>BREMEN</u> will be doing its part to make the holiday season special for residents of the state's mental health and retardation hospitals.

For 45 years, cities across Georgia have brought the joy of the holiday season to patients at Georgia's eight regional mental health and retardation hospitals through the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade.

The program, begun by the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) in cooperation with Governor Ernest Vandiver, relies on citizen participation in each city to donate gifts for the patients, many of who would not receive gifts or be recognized without the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade. According to hospital staff, many of the patients at these hospitals have lived there most of their lives and have little, if any, support or contact with friends and family.

Donated items from the City of <u>BREMEN</u> will be delivered to <u>NORTHWEST</u> <u>GEORGIA REGIONAL HOSPITAL</u> on <u>THURSDAY</u>, <u>DECEMBER 4</u>, <u>2003</u>. Bremen City Hall will have a collection box located in the lobby for individuals to drop off their donations. Civic organizations, businesses, churches, schools, scout troops and individual citizens are encouraged to help with the collection of gifts for the Mayors' Christmas Motorcade. For more information on how groups can participate, please call <u>WENDY BENNETT</u> at <u>770-537-2331</u>.

Based in Atlanta, GMA is a voluntary, non-profit organization that provides legislative advocacy, educational, employee benefit and technical consulting services to its 500 member cities.